

## Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10 OIC-02

/059 W

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O 091400Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3253

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DEPTO 09

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS EXCEPT QUITO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, OAS, EC

SUBJECT: QUITO MFM 2: PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ' OPENING ADDRESS

1. ECUADOREAN PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ DELIVERED THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS FORMALLY OPENING THE OAS QUITO MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, AT 5:30 PM NOVEMBER 8.

2. THE PRESIDENT'S TONE WAS SHARP, AND DISTINCTLY INDEPENDENT, WITH A CONSPICUOUS THIRD WORLD CAST. HE EMPHASIZED A U.S.-LATIN WE-THEY RELATIONSHIP. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO A DESIRE ON HIS PART TO AVOID HAVING ECUADOR ASSOCIATED WITH RIGHT-WING, PRO-US MILITARY REGIMES, A CONFUSION WHICH MIGHT UNDERSTANDABLY HAVE BEEN REACHED BY PRESS REPS SEEING HIM IN FULL UNIFORM, ACCOMPANIED BY A PHALANX OF MILITARY ATTENDANTS.

3. CUBA WAS NOT THE MAIN POINT OF HIS SPEECH, WHICH DWELT ON THE NORTH-SOUTH, U.S.-LATIN RELATIONSHIP. BUT HE LINKED LIFTING THE OAS SANCTIONS WITH THE PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

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OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM AND THE NEW DIALOGUE. WITH

RESPECT TO CUBA, HE SAID "TEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE SANCTIONS WERE IMPOSED, TOO LONG A TIME FOR THE DESIRED EFFECTS TO HAVE BEEN OBTAINED. THEIR CONTINUANCE DOES NOT CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCING THE DOUBTS, RESTLESSNESS, OR TENSIONS THAT EXIST." AND LATER, "ECUADOR BELIEVES THAT... IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE OF TLATELOLCO...IT IS NECESSARY TO REMOVE THE BLOCKADE AGAINST CUBA", WHICH WILL RESULT IN "RESTORATION OF COMMUNICATION AMONG THE PEOPLES OF THIS HEMISPHERE, RELAXATION OF TENSIONS, AND AN END TO VIOLENCE."

4. THE BETTER PART OF THE PRESIDENT'S 45-MINUTE SPEECH WAS DEVOTED TO A REHEARSAL OF THE ORIGINS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ITS LATIN AMERICAN PARTNERS, AND THE PROBLEMS OF THE THIRD WORLD IN ACHIEVING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS. PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ MADE REPEATED REFERENCES TO THE NEED TO RE-ESTABLISH THE PRINCIPLES OF NON-INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES, THE RIGHT OF EACH STATE TO CHOOSE THE TYPE OF POLITICAL SYSTEM IT WANTED, AND THE LEGAL EQUALITY OF STATES. HE TIPPED HIS HAT TO THE ROLE THE US HAD PLAYED IN ESTABLISHING THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, BUT SAID IT WAS NOW NECESSARY TO REVIEW AND REVISE THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT NEW CIRCUMSTANCES (MAINLY ECONOMIC) WHICH DISTINGUISH THE US FROM THE REST OF THE HEMISPHERIC COMMUNITY. HE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE "THOUGHTFUL CALM" WITH WHICH THE US LEADERSHIP HAD HEARD THE LATIN AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES AT TLATELOLCO AND ATLANTA, AND SAID THAT WAS "A HOPEFUL SIGN WHICH ENCOURAGES US TO WORK TOWARD FORMING AN OAS RENEWED BOTH IN ESSENCE AND FORM, WHICH GUARANTEES THE SOVEREIGN EXISTENCE OF EACH OF OUR STATES, AS WELL AS PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND FINANCE AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, WITH EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY, REGARDLESS OF COLOR OF SKIN OR IDEOLOGY, OF EACH OF OUR COUNTRIES."

5. RODRIGUEZ CAST HIMSELF AS A SPOKESMAN FOR LATIN AMERICAN ASPIRATIONS, KEENLY AWARE OF THE DISPARITIES BETWEEN THE HAVES AND HAVE NOTS, THE RICH AND THE POOR, THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POWERFUL AND POWERLESS. HE EMPHASIZED HIS VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE DIALOGUE WOULD DEPEND UPON THE U.S. ATTITUDE. HE CALLED FOR CALM DELIBERATIONS IN THE MFM AND MADE CLEAR THAT ECUADOR (WHILE PRESERVING ITS OWN IDENTITY AS A SOVEREIGN MEMBER OF THE THIRD WORLD) WANTS TO HELP FOSTER THE DIALOGUE WHICH WAS BEGUN AT TLATELOLCO AND ATLANTA.

6. RODRIGUEZ MADE NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO CURRENT US/  
ECUADOREAN BILATERAL PROBLEMS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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